

Press Release



Dec. 14, 2009

For Immediate Release

Contact: Cheryl Eberwein
ceberwein@brtrc.com
Release # 0965

TARDEC Shares Engineering and Technology Vision with Army's Commander of Research and Science Programs

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, MI — The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) recently hosted the Army's premier leader charged with developing cutting-edge research and science programs that directly transition into Soldier lethality, survivability, battlefield mobility and sustainability technologies and enhance equipment capabilities.

MG Nickolas G. Justice, appointed Dec. 4 to take command of the U.S. Army's Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM), visited TARDEC four days later and met with its senior engineers, scientists and executive leadership team to gain insight into its vision, goals and Soldier-centric mission. TARDEC is a major research, development and engineering center for RDECOM and partner in the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command. During his visit, MG Justice visited several TARDEC laboratories and witnessed a variety of electronic simulations and test equipment demonstrations.

TARDEC Director Dr. Grace M. Bochenek spent the day with MG Justice discussing advanced technologies, public-private partnerships and the integration challenges associated with successfully equipping the world's largest fleet of ground vehicles with effective, combat- superior integrated components and systems. The two visionary leaders also explored how TARDEC and RDECOM could increase cooperation and leverage both existing and future organic systems engineering research and development (R&D) as directed by the *2009 Weapons System Acquisition Reform Act*. The Act, passed in September 2009, calls for the restoration of systems engineering capabilities within the Department of Defense.

"TARDEC is a key to the Army's Ground Systems Enterprise, and this visit provided the organization with an opportunity to educate General Justice about our work and programs and illustrate how we are strategically aligned with the Army's larger goals and vision," Bochenek remarked. "Our conversations with General Justice focused on the remarkable people and programs we are leveraging here at TARDEC to put the latest vehicle

Press Release



technologies into the hands of our warfighters. TARDEC employees are completely dedicated to their work, and I believe General Justice witnessed this passion during his visit.”

TARDEC employs a community of world-class R&D experts who are working in advanced vehicle technology areas including modeling and simulation, vehicle characterization, powertrain and propulsion systems, advanced batteries and auxiliary power units, thermal management, alternate energy and microgrids, lightweight and composite materials, and fuel consumption and efficiencies.

In addition, TARDEC currently has Test Service Agreements (TSAs) with a number of local companies. Under these agreements, the firms can access TARDEC’s one-of-a-kind laboratories for testing. TARDEC is open to exploring more of these arrangements going forward, and its pursuit of public-private partnerships via TSAs and other administrative tools such as the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) grants and Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) programs leverages commercial and academic R&D expertise crucial to the Army and Nation, MG Justice observed.

“The work and programs that TARDEC is pursuing makes a difference to our Soldiers every day,” Justice commented. “Clearly TARDEC and RDECOM have the shared vision and strategic alignment needed to very quickly change the U.S. Army’s business paradigm to one that embraces cooperation, flexibility and speed – the very traits we need in order to quickly put the best technologies into the hands of our warfighters. These kinds of capabilities save lives and help build the most effective lethal fighting force in the world,” Justice concluded.

MG Justice formerly served as the Program Executive Officer for the Army's Command, Control and Communications-Tactical headquarters at Fort Monmouth, N.J. He succeeds MG Paul Izzo, who recently retired, as the RDECOM commanding general.

###

Photos: Two images are available for use with this release. Caption information follows. To download photos, go to www.tardec.info/pressreleases/.

091208-A-1234C-152

COL Eric Fletcher, TARDEC Military Deputy (left), and MG Nickolas Justice, RDECOM Commanding General, receive an orientation from Jarrod Hoose, Project Engineer, on TARDEC’s eight-labs-in-one Ground Systems Power and Energy Lab (GSPEL), currently under construction. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo by Liz Carnegie.)

091208-A-1234C-168

Munira Tourner, Team Leader/ATO Program Manager, Tactical Wheeled Vehicle

Press Release



Survivability, gives an orientation about technology initiatives that will improve vehicle survivability and Soldier situational awareness.

First row from left: MG Nickolas Justice and COL Eric Fletcher.

Second row from left: Executive Directors Dr. Paul Rogers, Thomas Mathes and Magid Athnasios, TARDEC Director Dr. Grace Bochenek and TARDEC Associate Corinna Womack. (U.S. Army TARDEC photo by Liz Carnegie.)

ABOUT TARDEC

Headquartered at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, MI, TARDEC is the Nation's laboratory for advanced military automotive technology and serves as the Ground Systems Integrator for all DOD manned and unmanned ground vehicle systems. With roots dating back to the World War II era, TARDEC is a full life-cycle, systems engineering support provider-of-first-choice for all DOD ground combat and combat support weapons, equipment and vehicle systems. TARDEC develops and integrates the right technology solutions to improve Current Force effectiveness and provide superior capabilities for Future Force integration. TARDEC's technical, scientific and engineering staff lead cutting-edge research and development in Ground Systems Survivability; Power and Mobility; Intelligent Ground Systems; Force Projection; and Vehicle Electronics and Architecture.

For more information about TARDEC, visit us at <http://TARDEC.army.mil>.

You can also follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/TARDEC_PAO.